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INSOLVENCY proceedings have been taken in the matter of the estate of J. B. A. Chevalier & Co., boot and shoe manufacturers, Quebec. The business was established in 1899, but apparently was not of a profitable character, and Mr. Chevalier was found dead some days ago at the bottom of an elevator shaft in his factory.

We see in the Montreal papers that Mr. P. W. St. George, who resigned the position of city surveyor at the end of the year, the same day took over the duties of general manager of the Electric Fire Proofing Company, which is erecting extensive works for the fire proofing of wood at Cote St. Paul.

THE Montmorency Cotton Mills Company held a meeting a short time ago, at which it was decided to issue \$550,000 twenty-year, 6 per cent., first mortgage, gold bonds, non-redeemable. The Royal Trust Company, Montreal, are acting as trustee, and a sinking fund has been provided for. The company now operate about 60,000 spindles and 900 looms, and give employment to about 1,200 hands.

THERE is a rumor extant that Mackenzie and Mann, Toronto, propose to construct a line from Winnipeg to Quebec, to the north of the country traversed by the Canadian Pacific Railway, instead of relying on the Canada Atlantic or any other road to give their western lines connection with the Atlantic seaboard. Preliminary surveys have been made, and it is understood the Ontario Government has been approached for aid. The Dominion Government will be asked for a charter.

DURING the past year, there was a decided diminution in the timber trade of the port of Quebec, owing to the increasing difficulty of obtaining suitable standing timber and from the increasing demand at advanced prices from the United States markets. Notwithstanding the diminished export, the quantity white pine at present in stock is very small. During the past season, 241 steamships took entire cargoes at Quebec, while the number of sailing vessels which cleared for sea lumber laden from Quebec and its outports on the Saguenay and Lower St. Lawrence, was only 28, as compared with 150 in 1890, and 369 in 1885.

THE Ontario Government has set aside some 1,400,000 acres of land surrounding lakes Temagami and Lady Evelyn, which will be used as a forest preserve. In proportion to its area, Ontario will now have a larger forest reserve than any country of its size. Until the Government see fit to grant special permission, no one will be allowed to cut timber on this area, although there are said to be thereon five billion feet of white pine; but should this be done, part of the plan will be to reforest what is cut over, in order to keep a succession of forest growths in the reserve. Rangers will be appointed to guard against fire.

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